# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRANSIENT ACCOMMODATIONS.

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1	PART I
2	SECTION 1. The legislature finds that, under certain
3	circumstances, allowing a private person to act as a tax
4	collection agent is likely to ease the burden of collecting
5	taxes. Section 237-9(e), Hawaii Revised Statutes, allows a
6	person engaged in network marketing, multi-level marketing, or
7	other similar business to enter into an agreement with the
8	department of taxation to act as a tax collection agent on
9	behalf of its direct sellers. The legislature finds that
10	similarly allowing a transient accommodations broker to act as a
11	tax collection agent on behalf of providers of transient
12	accommodations that utilize the services of the transient
13	accommodations broker may facilitate the collection of transient
14	accommodations taxes and general excise taxes.
15	The legislature also finds that hosting platforms, such as
16	Airbnb, should be subject to fines if the hosting platform
17	collects a booking service fee for posting online a transient

1 accommodations unit rental that is not registered with its 2 respective county in Hawaii. 3 The legislature additionally finds that transient 4 accommodations transient accommodations brokers, platform hosts, 5 and booking services should provide a monthly report of 6 transient accommodations listings in Hawaii by zip code to the 7 department of taxation, and maintain records that should be made 8 available upon lawful request to enforcement authorities, for 9 greater transparency and data sharing purposes. 10 The purpose of this Act is to: Amend the definition of "transient accommodations" to 11 (1) 12 include other forms of transient accommodations and 13 other terms that the counties may have defined; 14 (2) Make it unlawful for a hosting platform to provide, **15** and collect a fee for, booking services regarding **16** transient accommodations that are not lawfully **17** certified, registered, or permitted under applicable 18 county ordinance; 19 (3) Require anonymous, periodic reports by transient

accommodations brokers, platform hosts, and booking

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1		services to the department of taxation of transient
2		accommodations listings;
3	(4)	Enable a transient accommodations broker to register
4	,	as a tax collection agent with respect to transient
5		accommodations taxes and general excise taxes for its
6		operators and plan managers; and
7	(5)	Require a transient accommodations broker, platform
8		host, and booking service to remove a transient
9		accommodation advertisement upon notice that the
10		property is not in compliance with state law or county
11		ordinance.
12	This	Act is not intended to preempt or otherwise limit the
13	authority	of counties to adopt, monitor, and enforce local land
14	use regula	ations, and this Act is not intended to transfer the
15	authority	to monitor and enforce such regulations away from the
16	counties.	
17		PART II
18		DEFINITIONS
19	SECT	ION 2. Section 237D-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
20	amended as	s follows:

1. By adding two new definitions to be appropriately 1 2 inserted and to read: 3 ""Booking service" means any advertising, reservation, or 4 payment service provided by a person or entity that facilitates 5 a transient accommodation transaction between an operator and a 6 prospective transient or occupant, and for which the person or 7 entity collects or receives, directly or indirectly, through an 8 agent or intermediary, a fee in connection with the advertising, 9 reservation, or payment services provided for the transient **10** accommodation transaction. 11 "Hosting platform" means a person or entity that **12** participates in the transient accommodations business by 13 providing, and collecting or receiving a fee for, booking 14 services through which an operator may offer a transient 15 accommodation. Hosting platforms usually, though not **16** necessarily, provide booking services through an online platform **17** that allows an operator to advertise the transient 18 accommodations through a website provided by the hosting 19 platform and the hosting platform conducts a transaction by **20** which potential renters arrange, use, pay, whether the renter 21 pays rent directly to the operator or to the hosting platform."

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2. By amending the definition of "transient 2 accommodations" to read: 3 ""Transient accommodations" means the furnishing of a room, 4 apartment, suite, single family dwelling, or the like to a transient for less than one hundred eighty consecutive days for 5 6 each letting in a hotel, apartment hotel, motel, condominium or 7 unit as defined in chapter 514B, cooperative apartment, dwelling 8 unit, or rooming house that provides living quarters, sleeping. 9 or housekeeping accommodations, or other place in which lodgings **10** are regularly furnished to transients. "Transient 11 accommodations" includes "transient accommodations units", "transient vacation rentals", "transient vacation units", 12 **13** "transient vacation use", or any similar term that may be 14 defined by county ordinance to mean a room, apartment, house, 15 condominium, beach house, hotel room, suite, or similar living 16 accommodation rented to a transient person for less than one **17** hundred eighty consecutive days in exchange for payment in cash, 18 goods, or services."

PART III

HOSTING PLATFORM AND TRANSIENT ACCOMMODATIONS BROKER LIABILITY

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1	SECTION 3. Chapter 237D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is		
2	amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated		
3	and to read as follows:		
4	"§237D- Booking services. (a) It shall be unlawful for		
5	a hosting platform to provide booking services and collect a fee		
6	for such booking services provided in connection with transient		
7	accommodations located in the State if the operator of the		
8	transient accommodation is not registered with the department as		
9	required under section 237D-4. This section shall not apply to		
10	booking services provided in connection with a transient		
11	accommodation that is a hotel.		
12	(b) A hosting platform or transient accommodation broker		
13	that violates this section shall be subject to a penalty of		
14	\$1,000 per booking service transaction from which fees were		
15	collected in violation of subsection (a). The following		
16	transactions shall be deemed to be separate booking services		
17	transactions:		
18	(1) Each reservation for the letting of a transient		
19	accommodation;		
20	(2) Each pay-per-listing agreement between a hosting		
21	platform and an operator;		

1	(3)	A single calendar month of a subscription-based
2		listing agreement between a hosting platform and an
3		operator;
4	(4)	Each instance of an operator registering with a
5		hosting platform; and
6	(5)	Other transactions set forth by administrative rule.
7	<u>(c)</u>	As used in this section:
8	<u>"Boo</u>	king service" shall have the same meaning as in section
9	237D-1.	
10	·"Hot	el" means an establishment consisting of any building,
11	structure	e, or portion thereof containing more than nine rooming
12	units tha	t, as part of its routine operations, furnishes
13	transient	accommodations and provides one or more additional
14	customary	lodging services other than the living accommodations
15	and the u	se of furniture, fixtures, and appliances, such as room
16	attendant	, room service, bell service laundering service,
17	concierge	e service or daily housekeeping services.
18	"Hos	sting Platform" shall have the same meaning as in
19	237D-1.	
20	<u>"Ser</u>	rvice Business" shall have the same meaning as in
21	section 2	237-7.

1	(d) The department may require a hosting platform to
2	provide the names and registration identification numbers for
3	all operators for whom the hosting platform provided booking
4	services and for all operators whose property or transient
5	accommodations the hosting platform provided booking services
6	for.
7	The department shall not impose penalties under this
8	section if the hosting platform obtains the registration
9	identification number issued under section 237D-4 of the
10	operators described in this subsection, in the format in which
11	such numbers are issued by the department.
12	(e) Any monetary penalty assessed under this section shall
13	be due and payable thirty days after the hosting platform is
14	notified of the imposition of the penalty. Penalties assessed
15	under this section may be appealed to the director of taxation
16	or the director's designee."
17	PART IV
18	TRANSPARENCY AND DATA SHARING
19	SECTION 4. Section 237D-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
20	amended to read as follows:

1 "§237D-4 Certificate of registration. (a) Each operator 2 or plan manager as a condition precedent to engaging or 3 continuing in the business of furnishing transient 4 accommodations or in business as a resort time share vacation 5 plan shall register with the director the name and address of 6 each place of business within the State subject to this chapter. 7 The operator or plan manager shall make a one-time payment as 8 follows: 9 \$5 for each registration for transient accommodations 10 consisting of one to five units; 11 (2) \$15 for each registration for transient accommodations 12 consisting of six or more units; and 13 \$15 for each resort time share vacation plan within (3) 14 the State; **15** upon receipt of which the director shall issue a certificate of 16 registration in such form as the director determines, attesting 17 that the registration has been made. The registration shall not 18 be transferable and shall be valid only for the operator or plan 19 manager in whose name it is issued and for the transaction of

business at the place designated therein. Acquisition of

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### S.B. NO. 1292 S.D. 1

- 1 additional transient accommodation units after payment of the
- 2 one-time fee shall not result in additional fees.
- 3 (b) The registration, or in lieu thereof a notice stating
- 4 where the registration may be inspected and examined, shall at
- 5 all times be conspicuously displayed at the place for which it
- 6 is issued. The name, phone number, and electronic mail address
- 7 of the local contact shall at all times be conspicuously
- 8 displayed in the same place as the registration or the same
- 9 place as the notice stating where the registration may be
- 10 inspected and examined. Failure to meet the requirements of
- 11 this subsection shall be unlawful. The department may issue
- 12 citations to any person who fails to conspicuously display the
- 13 registration or notice, or the local contact's name, phone
- 14 number, or electronic mail address as required by this
- 15 subsection. A citation issued pursuant to this subsection for
- 16 each transient accommodation or resort time share vacation
- 17 interest, plan, or unit in violation of this subsection shall
- 18 include a monetary fine of not less than:
- 19 (1) \$500 per day, for a first violation for which a
- 20 citation is issued;

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1	(2)	\$1,000 per day, for a second violation for which a
2		citation is issued; and
3	(3)	\$5,000 per day, for a third and any subsequent
4		violation for which a citation is issued.
5	(c)	Any advertisement, including an online advertisement,
6	for any t	ransient accommodation or resort time share vacation
7	interest,	plan, or unit shall conspicuously provide:
8	(1)	[The registration identification number or an
9		electronic link to the registration identification
10		number of the The operator or plan [manager issued
11		pursuant to this section; and] manager's transient
12		accommodations tax registration identification number;
13	(2)	The local contact's name, phone number, and electronic
14		mail address, provided that this paragraph shall be
15		considered satisfied if this information is provided
16		to the transient or occupant prior to the furnishing
17		of the transient accommodation or resort time share
18		vacation unit[-]; and
19	(3)	The county-level transient accommodations tax
20		registration identification number of each advertised
21		unit as provided by the county having jurisdiction.

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1	Upon	notice that the property is not in compliance with
2	state law	or county ordinance, an operator or plan manager shall
3	remove th	e transient accommodations unit advertisement.
4	(d)	Failure to meet the requirements of subsection (c)
5	shall be	unlawful. The department may issue citations to any
6	person, i	ncluding [ <del>operators, plan managers, and</del> ] transient
7	accommoda	tions brokers, platform hosts, and booking services,
8	who viola	tes subsection (c). A citation issued pursuant to this
9	subsection	n for each transient [accommodation] accommodations or
10	resort ti	me share vacation interest, plan, or unit in violation
11	of subsec	tion (c) shall include a monetary fine of not less
12	than:	
13 .	(1)	\$500 per day, for a first violation for which a
14		citation is issued;
15	(2)	\$1,000 per day, for a second violation for which a
16		citation is issued; and
17	(3)	\$5,000 per day, for a third and any subsequent
18		violation for which a citation is issued.

(e) The registration provided for by this section shall be

effective until canceled in writing. Any application for the

reissuance of a previously canceled registration identification

- 1 number shall be regarded as a new registration application and
- 2 shall be subject to the payment of the one-time registration
- 3 fee. The director may revoke or cancel any license issued under
- 4 this chapter for cause as provided by rule under chapter 91.
- 5 (f) If the license fee is paid, the department shall not
- 6 refuse to issue a registration or revoke or cancel a
- 7 registration for the exercise of a privilege protected by the
- 8 First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, or for
- 9 the carrying on of interstate or foreign commerce, or for any
- 10 privilege the exercise of which, under the Constitution and laws
- 11 of the United States, cannot be restrained on account of
- 12 nonpayment of taxes, nor shall section 237D-14 be invoked to
- 13 restrain the exercise of such a privilege, or the carrying on of
- 14 such commerce.
- 15 [(g) Any person who may lawfully be required by the State,
- 16 and who is required by this chapter, to register as a condition
- 17 precedent to engaging or continuing in the business of
- 18 furnishing transient accommodations or as a plan manager subject
- 19 to taxation under this chapter, who engages or continues in the
- 20 business without registering in conformity with this chapter,
- 21 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Any director, president,

1 secretary, or treasurer of a corporation who permits, aids, or 2 abets such corporation to engage or continue in business without 3 registering in conformity with this chapter, shall likewise be 4 guilty of a misdemeanor. The penalty for the misdemeanors shall 5 be the same as that prescribed by section 231-35 for 6 individuals, corporations, or officers of corporations, as the 7 case may be, for violation of that section. 8 (h) (g) Any monetary fine assessed under this section 9 shall be due and payable thirty days after issuance of the 10 citation, subject to appeal rights provided under this 11 subsection. Citations may be appealed to the director of 12 taxation or the director's designee. 13 (h) Each transient accommodations broker, platform host, 14 and booking service shall provide a monthly report of listings 15 in Hawaii by the fifth day of each month with the previous **16** month's data. Listing data shall be submitted through an online 17 process with a reporting template and appropriate calculation 18 guidelines developed by, and made publically available on the 19 website of, the department of business, economic development, 20 and tourism. Reported data shall be anonymized and aggregated 21 by zip code and shall include all of the following fields:

1 (1) Total number of available units; 2 (2) Total number of available rooms; 3 (3) Total available room nights; Total occupied room nights; 4 (4)5 (5) Average daily rate; and 6 (6) Total revenue. 7 Any operator or plan manager who fails to provide a monthly 8 report to the department of taxation shall be subject to the 9 citation process and penalties of \$100 per day for non-10 compliance." 11 PART V 12 TRANSIENT ACCOMMODATIONS BROKERS AS TAX COLLECTION AGENTS 13 SECTION 5. Chapter 237, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 14 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated 15 and to read as follows: 16 "§237- Transient accommodations broker as tax collection 17 agent; operator and plan manager. (a) The director may permit 18 a transient accommodations broker to register as a tax 19 collection agent on behalf of all of its operators and plan 20 managers by entering into a tax collection agreement with the 21 director or by submitting a tax collection agent registration

1	statement	to the director; provided that the transient
2	accommoda	tions broker agrees in writing:
3	(1)	To obtain written consent from all of its operators
4		and plan managers for the disclosure of periodic
5		returns and information required under subsection (g);
6	(2)	To furnish information to the counties as required in
7		subsection (g); and
8	(3)	That continuing to collect fees for booking services
9		in connection with a transient accommodation, seven
10		days after receiving written notice from a state or
11		county governmental authority that the subject
12		property is not in compliance with state law or county
13		ordinance, is a violation of the tax collection
14		agreement.
15	Any	tax collection agreement entered into pursuant to this
16	section s	hall be subject to and in accordance with all
17	applicabl	e provisions of state law and county ordinances and
18	shall not	permit a tax collection agent, nor any operator or
19	plan mana	ger conducting business through the tax collection
20	agent, to	opt out of any requirements or obligations under state
21	law or co	ounty ordinance.

1 The director shall deny an application for registration as 2 a tax collection agent under this section for violations of this 3 subsection and may deny an application for any other cause 4 authorized by law, including any violation of this chapter or 5 rules adopted pursuant thereto, violation of any prior tax 6 collection agreement, or failure to meet minimum criteria that 7 may be set forth by the department in rules adopted pursuant to 8 chapter 91. 9 The director shall issue a certificate of registration or **10** letter of denial within thirty days after a transient accommodations broker submits to the director a completed and 11 12 signed tax collection agent registration statement, in a form **13** prescribed by the department. 14 The registration shall be valid only for the tax collection **15** agent in whose name it is issued, and for the website or hosting 16 platform designated therein, and shall not be transferable. **17** (b) In addition to its own responsibilities under this 18 chapter, a registered tax collection agent shall report, 19 collect, and pay over the taxes due under this chapter on behalf **20** of all of its operators and plan managers from the date of 21 registration until the registration is canceled as provided in

- 1 subsection (h); provided that the registered tax collection
- 2 agent's obligation to report, collect, and pay taxes on behalf
- 3 of all of its operators and plan managers shall apply solely to
- 4 transient accommodations in the State arranged or booked
- 5 directly through the registered tax collection agent.
- 6 (c) The registered tax collection agent's operators and
- 7 plan managers shall obtain licensure under this chapter and
- 8 remain subject to the requirements of title 14; provided that
- 9 the registered tax collection agent shall report, collect, and
- 10 pay the taxes under this chapter on behalf of the operators and
- 11 plan managers for business activity conducted directly through
- 12 the agent, as set forth in this section, from the date of
- 13 registration until the registration is canceled as provided in
- 14 subsection (h). For purposes of any other business activity,
- 15 the operators and plan managers shall be subject to all
- 16 requirements of title 14 and all county ordinances and rules
- 17 regulating transient accommodations, regardless of the terms
- 18 used by the county to refer to transient accommodations, as if
- 19 this section did not exist.
- 20 A registered tax collection agent shall be issued separate
- 21 certificates of registration under this chapter with respect to

- 1 taxes payable on behalf of its operators and plan managers in
- 2 its capacity as a registered tax collection agent and, if
- 3 applicable, with respect to any taxes payable under this chapter
- 4 for its own business activities.
- 5 (d) If the registered tax collection agent fails to report
- 6 or pay the taxes under this chapter on behalf of the operators
- 7 and plan managers, as set forth in this section, the registered
- 8 tax collection agent and the operator or plan manager shall be
- 9 jointly and severally liable for the taxes due under this
- 10 chapter, including penalties and interest as provided by law,
- 11 with respect to their business activities conducted directly
- 12 through the registered tax collection agent from the date of
- 13 registration until the registration is canceled as provided in
- 14 subsection (h).
- (e) A tax collection agent shall be personally liable for
- 16 the taxes imposed by this chapter that are due and collected on
- 17 behalf of operators and plan managers, if taxes are collected,
- 18 but not reported or paid, together with penalties and interest
- 19 as provided by law. If the tax collection agent is an entity,
- 20 the personal liability under this subsection shall apply to any
- 21 officer, member, manager, or other person who has control or

- 1 supervision over amounts collected to pay the taxes or who is 2 charged with the responsibility for the filing of returns or the 3 payment of taxes. 4 (f) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and 5 subsection (g), all returns and other information provided by a 6 registered tax collection agent, including the application for 7 registration as a tax collection agent or any tax collection 8 agreement, shall be confidential, and disclosure thereof shall 9 be prohibited as provided in section 237-34. Nothing in this **10** subsection shall prevent public disclosure of information about 11 registered agents as provided in subsection 92F-12(a)(13) or of **12** aggregated information not identifiable to a specific tax 13 collection agent. 14 (g) A registered tax collection agent shall file periodic 15 returns in accordance with section 237-30 and annual returns in **16** accordance with section 237-33. Each periodic return required 17 under section 237-30 shall be accompanied by an electronic cover 18 sheet, in a form prescribed by the department that includes the
- (1) For each operator and plan manager on whose behalf the
  tax collection agent is required to report, collect,

following information:

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1		and	pay over taxes due under this chapter, the
2		oper	ator's or plan manager's name, address, and
3		gene	ral excise tax license number; and
4	(2)	For	each transient accommodation rented through the
5		regi	stered tax collection agent or the website or
6		host	ing platform designated in the certificate of
7		regi	stration issued pursuant to chapter 237D, for
8		whic	h taxes are being remitted pursuant to this
9		chap	ter:
10		(A)	The address of the transient accommodation;
11		(B)	The number of nights that each transient
12			accommodation was rented and the rate or price at
13			which each transient accommodation was rented;
14			and
15		<u>(C)</u>	The amount of tax being remitted pursuant to this
16			chapter and the amount of any federal form 1099
17			income that was derived from each transient
18			accommodation.
19	Upon	. requ	est by the planning director or mayor of the
20	applicabl	e cou	nty, a registered tax collection agent shall
21	disclose	any c	of the information contained in the returns or



- 1 cover sheets required by this subsection to the planning
- 2 director or any county official designated by the mayor to
- 3 receive the information. Notwithstanding any law to the
- 4 contrary, including section 237-34, the planning director and
- 5 county official designated to receive the information pursuant
- 6 to this subsection may examine and copy the returns and cover
- 7 sheets to ensure compliance with this section, state tax laws
- 8 and county tax ordinances, and any applicable land use laws and
- 9 ordinances.
- 10 (h) The registration provided for under this section shall
- 11 be effective until canceled in writing.
- 12 A registered tax collection agent may cancel its
- 13 registration under this section by delivering written notice of
- 14 cancellation to the director and each of the agent's operators
- 15 and plan managers furnishing transient accommodations in the
- 16 State no later than ninety days prior to the effective date of
- 17 cancellation.
- 18 The director may cancel a tax collection agent's
- 19 registration under this section for any cause, including any
- 20 violation of this chapter or rules adopted pursuant thereto, or
- 21 for violation of any applicable tax collection agreement, by

1	deliverin	g written notice of cancellation to the tax collection
2	agent no	later than ninety days prior to the effective date of
3	cancellat	ion.
4	<u>(i)</u>	When conducting business with an operator or plan
5	manager w	ith respect to a property for lease or rent, transient
6	accommoda	tions brokers, platform hosts, and booking services:
7	(1)	Shall notify the operator or plan manager that the
8		subject property is required to be in compliance with
9		applicable state and county land use laws and
10		ordinances prior to retaining the services of the
11		transient accommodations broker;
12	(2)	Shall require the operator or plan manager to provide
13		the transient accommodations broker, platform host, or
14		booking service with the operator's or plan manager's
15		transient accommodations tax identification number and
16		local contact information and shall notify the
17		operator or plan manager that this information is
18		required in advertisements for transient
19		accommodations or resort time share vacation
20		interests, plans, or units under section 237D-4;

1	(3)	Shall require the operator or plan manager to provide
2		the transient accommodation broker, platform host, and
3		booking service with the county non-conforming use
4		registration number, or other unit-specific transient
5		accommodation registration number as issued by the
6		appropriate county agency, and verification of
7		compliance with state and county land use laws in the
8		form of a written certification, verification, or
9		permit, as applicable, issued by the appropriate
10		county agency; and
11	(4)	Shall require the operator or plan manager to provide
12		any other information as may be required by
13		rulemaking.
14	An o	perator or plan manager shall remove any advertisement
15	published	through the transient accommodations broker, including
16	an online	advertisement, for a transient accommodation located
17	in the St	ate for which the operator or plan manager fails to
18	comply wi	th paragraph (2), (3), or (4) or for which the operator
19	or plan m	anager has received written notice from a state or
20	county go	vernmental authority that the property is not in
21	complianc	e with state law or county ordinance, as applicable.

- 1 The state or county governmental authority shall provide a copy
- 2 of the written notice to the transient accommodations broker.
- 3 (j) Nothing in this section shall be construed to preempt
- 4 or prohibit the authority of a unit of local government in the
- 5 State, including counties and any other political subdivisions
- 6 of the State, to adopt, monitor, and enforce local land use
- 7 ordinances, rules, or regulations, nor to transfer the authority
- 8 to monitor and enforce these ordinances, rules, or regulations
- 9 away from the counties.
- 10 (k) For the purposes of this section:
- 11 "Booking service" has the same meaning as in section
- **12** 237D-1.
- "Director" means the director of taxation.
- "Operator" has the same meaning as in section 237D-1.
- 15 "Plan manager" has the same meaning as in section 237D-1.
- 16 "Transient accommodations" has the same meaning as in
- 17 section 237D-1.
- 18 "Transient accommodations broker" has the same meaning as
- 19 in section 237D-1."

1	SECT	ION 6. Chapter 237D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2	amended b	y adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3	and to re	ad as follows:
4	" <u>§23</u>	7D- Transient accommodations broker as tax
5	collectio	n agent; operator and plan manager. (a) The director
6	may permi	t a transient accommodations broker to register as a
7	tax colle	ction agent on behalf of all of its operators and plan
8	managers	by entering into a tax collection agreement with the
9	director	or by submitting a tax collection agent registration
10	statement	to the director; provided that the transient
11	accommoda	tions broker agrees in writing:
12	(1)	To obtain written consent from all of its operators
13		and plan managers for the disclosure of periodic
14		returns and information required under subsection (g);
15	(2)	To furnish information to the counties as required in
16		subsection (g); and
17	(3)	That continuing to collect fees for booking services
18		in connection with a transient accommodation, seven
19		days after receiving written notice from a state or
20		county governmental authority that the subject
21		property is not in compliance with state law or county

1	ordinance, is a violation of the tax collection
2	agreement.
3	Any tax collection agreement entered into pursuant to this
4	section shall be subject to and in accordance with all
5	applicable provisions of state law and county ordinances and
6	shall not permit a tax collection agent, nor any operator or
7	plan manager conducting business through the tax collection
8	agent, to opt out of any requirements or obligations under state
9	law or county ordinance.
10	The director shall deny an application for registration as
11	a tax collection agent under this section for violations of this
12	subsection and may deny an application for any other cause
13	authorized by law, including any violation of this chapter or
14	rules adopted pursuant thereto, violation of any prior tax
15	collection agreement, or failure to meet minimum criteria that
16	may be set forth by the department in rules adopted pursuant to
17	chapter 91.
18	The director shall issue a certificate of registration or
19	letter of denial within thirty days after a transient
20	accommodations broker submits to the director a completed and
21	signed tax collection agent registration statement, in a form

- 1 prescribed by the department. The registration shall be valid
- 2 only for the tax collection agent in whose name it is issued,
- 3 and for the website or hosting platform designated therein, and
- 4 shall not be transferable.
- 5 A registered tax collection agent shall be issued separate
- 6 certificates of registration under this chapter with respect to
- 7 taxes payable on behalf of its operators and plan managers in
- 8 its capacity as a registered tax collection agent and, if
- 9 applicable, with respect to any taxes payable under this chapter
- 10 for its own business activities.
- 11 (b) In addition to its own responsibilities under this
- 12 chapter, a registered tax collection agent shall report,
- 13 collect, and pay over the taxes due under this chapter on behalf
- 14 of all of its operators and plan managers from the date of
- 15 registration until the registration is canceled as provided in
- 16 subsection (h); provided that the registered tax collection
- 17 agent's obligation to report, collect, and pay taxes on behalf
- 18 of all of its operators and plan managers shall apply solely to
- 19 transient accommodations in the State arranged or booked
- 20 directly through the registered tax collection agent.

1	(c) The registered tax collection agent's operators and
2	plan managers shall obtain registration under this chapter and
3	remain subject to the requirements of title 14; provided that
4	the registered tax collection agent shall report, collect, and
5	pay the taxes under this chapter on behalf of the operators and
6	plan managers for business activity conducted directly through
7	the registered tax collection agent, as set forth in this
8	section, from the date of registration until the registration is
9	canceled as provided in subsection (h). For purposes of any
10	other business activity, the operators and plan managers shall
11	be subject to all requirements of title 14 and all applicable
12	ordinances and rules regulating transient accommodations,
13	regardless of the terms used by the county to refer to transient
14	accommodations, as if this section did not exist.
15	(d) If the registered tax collection agent fails to report
16	or pay the taxes under this chapter on behalf of the operators
17	and plan managers, as set forth in this section, the registered
18	tax collection agent and the operator or plan manager shall be
19	jointly and severally liable for the taxes due under this
20	chapter, including penalties and interest as provided by law,
21	with respect to their business activities conducted directly

1 through the registered tax collection agent from the date of 2 registration until the registration is canceled as provided in 3 subsection (h). 4 (e) A tax collection agent shall be personally liable for 5 the taxes imposed by this chapter that are due and collected on 6 behalf of operators and plan managers, if taxes are collected, 7 but not reported or paid, together with penalties and interest as provided by law. If the tax collection agent is an entity, 8 9 the personal liability under this subsection shall apply to any **10** officer, member, manager, or other person who has control or 11 supervision over amounts collected to pay the taxes or who is charged with the responsibility for the filing of returns or the 12 13 payment of taxes. 14 (f) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and **15** subsection (g), all returns and other information provided by a 16 registered tax collection agent, including the application for 17 registration as a tax collection agent or any tax collection 18 agreement, shall be confidential, and disclosure thereof shall 19 be prohibited as provided in section 237-34. Nothing in this 20 subsection shall prevent public disclosure of information about 21 registered agents as provided in subsection 92F-12(a)(13) or of

1	aggregated	d information not identifiable to a specific tax
2	collection	n agent.
3	<u>(g)</u>	A registered tax collection agent shall file periodic
4	returns in	n accordance with section 237D-6 and annual returns in
5	accordance	e with section 237D-7. Each periodic return required
6	under sect	tion 237D-6 shall be accompanied by an electronic cover
7	sheet, in	a form prescribed by the department that includes the
8	following	information:
9	(1)	For each operator and plan manager on whose behalf the
10		tax collection agent is required to report, collect,
11		and pay over taxes due under this chapter, the
12		operator's or plan manager's name, address, and
13		transient accommodations registration identification
14		number; and
15	(2)	For each transient accommodation rented through the
16		registered tax collection agent or the website or
17		hosting platform designated in the certificate of
18		registration issued pursuant to subsection (a), for
19		which taxes are being remitted pursuant to this
20		<pre>chapter:</pre>
21		(A) The address of the transient accommodation;

1	<u>(B)</u>	The number of nights that each transient
2		accommodation was rented and the rate or price at
3		which each transient accommodation was rented;
4		and
5	<u>(C)</u>	The amount of tax being remitted pursuant to this
6		chapter and the amount of any federal form 1099
7		income that was derived from each transient
8		accommodation.
9	<u>Upon requ</u>	est by the planning director or mayor of the
10	applicable cou	nty, a registered tax collection agent shall
-11	disclose any c	f the information contained in the returns or
12	cover sheets r	equired by this subsection to the planning
13	director or an	y county official designated by the mayor to
14	receive the in	formation. Notwithstanding any law to the
15	contrary, incl	uding section 237D-13, the planning director and
16	county officia	l designated to receive the information pursuant
17	to this subsec	tion may examine and copy the returns and cover
18	•	re compliance with this section, state and county
19		ordinances, and any applicable land use laws and
20	ordinances.	

1	(h) The registration provided for under this section shall
2	be effective until canceled in writing.
3	A registered tax collection agent may cancel its
4	registration under this section by delivering written notice of
5	cancellation to the director and each of the agent's operators
6	and plan managers furnishing transient accommodations in the
7	State no later than ninety days prior to the effective date of
8	cancellation.
9	The director may cancel a tax collection agent's
10	registration under this section for any cause, including any
11	violation of this chapter or rules adopted pursuant thereto, or
12	for violation of any applicable tax collection agreement, by
13	delivering written notice of cancellation to the tax collection
14	agent no later than ninety days prior to the effective date of
15	cancellation.
16	(i) When conducting business with an operator or plan
17	manager with respect to a property for lease or rent, a
18	transient accommodations broker:
19	(1) Shall notify the operator or plan manager that the
20	subject property is required to be in compliance with
21	applicable state land use laws and county land use

1		ordinances prior to retaining the services of the
2		transient accommodations broker;
3	(2)	Shall require the operator or plan manager to provide
4		the transient accommodations broker with the operator
5		or plan manager's transient accommodations
6		registration identification number and local contact
7		information and shall notify the operator or plan
8		manager that this information is required in
9		advertisements for transient accommodations or resort
10		time share vacation interests, plans, or units under
11		section 237D-4;
12	(3)	Shall require the operator or plan manager to provide
13		the transient accommodations broker with verification
14		of compliance with state land use laws and county land
15		use ordinances in the form of a written certification,
16		verification, or permit, as applicable, issued by the
17		appropriate county agency;
18	(4)	Shall require the operator or plan manager to provide
19		a statement to the transient accommodations broker
20		confirming compliance with all land use laws and
21		ordinances; and

1.	(5) Shall require the operator or plan manager to provide
2	any other information as may be required by
3	rulemaking.
4	An operator or plan manager shall remove any advertisement
5	published through the transient accommodations broker, including
6	an online advertisement, for a transient accommodation located
7	in the State for which the operator or plan manager fails to
8	comply with paragraph (2), (3), (4), or (5) or for which the
9	operator or plan manager has received written notice from a
10	state or local governmental authority that the property is not
11	in compliance with state law or county ordinance, as applicable.
12	The state or county governmental authority shall provide a copy
13	of the written notice to the transient accommodations broker.
14	(j) Nothing in this section shall be construed to preempt
15	or prohibit the authority of a unit of local government in the
16	State, including counties and any other political subdivisions
17	of the State, to adopt, monitor, and enforce local land use
18	ordinances, rules, or regulations, nor to transfer the authority
19	to monitor and enforce these ordinances, rules, or regulations
20	away from the counties."
21	PART VI

- 1 SECTION 7. If any provision of this Act, or the
- 2 application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held
- 3 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or
- 4 applications of the Act that can be given effect without the
- 5 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions
- 6 of this Act are severable.
- 7 SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 9 SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

### Report Title:

Transient Accommodations; Hosting Platform Liability; Hosting Platform Transparency; Data Sharing; Transient Accommodations Brokers; Tax Collection Agents

#### Description:

Part I: Describes the purpose of this Act. Part II: Adds definitions to the TAT law. Amends the definition of "transient accommodations" to include additional forms of transient accommodations. Part III: Makes it unlawful for a hosting platform to provide, and collect a fee for, booking services regarding transient accommodations if the operator is not registered with the Department of Taxation. Establish additional options for counties to obtain relief for violations of county ordinances or rules. Specifies that where a county seeks injunctive relief for violations related to single-family transient vacation rental units, the county need not show irreparable injury. Part IV: Amends requirements relating to transient accommodations tax certificates of registration to ensure greater transparency. Part V: Allows a transient accommodations broker to register as a GET and TAT tax collection agent for its operators and plan managers. (SD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.